

**From:** Verna Heimbinder  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/17/02 4:53pm  
**Subject:** microsoft settlement

January 17, 2002

Larry Heimbinder  
81 Squirrel Trail  
Hendersonville, NC 28791

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing today to express my opinion in regard to the Microsoft Settlement issue. I am a supporter of Microsoft and feel that this litigation has gone on long enough. This three year case has been costly, and I believe it is time to focus on more pressing issues.

The settlement that was reached in November is a complete agreement. Under it, Microsoft has agreed to share more information with other companies and to follow pro-competitive procedures, which will make it easier for other companies to compete. Microsoft has agreed to design future versions of Windows beginning with an interim release of Windows XP, to provide a mechanism to make it easy for computer makers, consumers and software developers to promote non-microsoft software within Windows. Microsoft has also agreed to make available to its competitors, on reasonable and non-discriminatory terms, any protocol implemented in Windows' operating system products that are used to interoperate natively with any Microsoft server operating system.

This settlement is thorough. Please support this settlement so that this dispute can finally be resolved. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely  
Larry Heimbinder